

Supersedes:

Section: Biocontainment Unit
 NBU Laundry Process for Viral Hemorrhagic
 Subject: Fevers
 Number: 1166
 Attachments:
 Date Effective: July 2010
 March 2013; March 2015, November 2017, June
 Date Reviewed: 2018

Nebraska Biocontainment Unit Laundry Policy (VHF)

Policy:

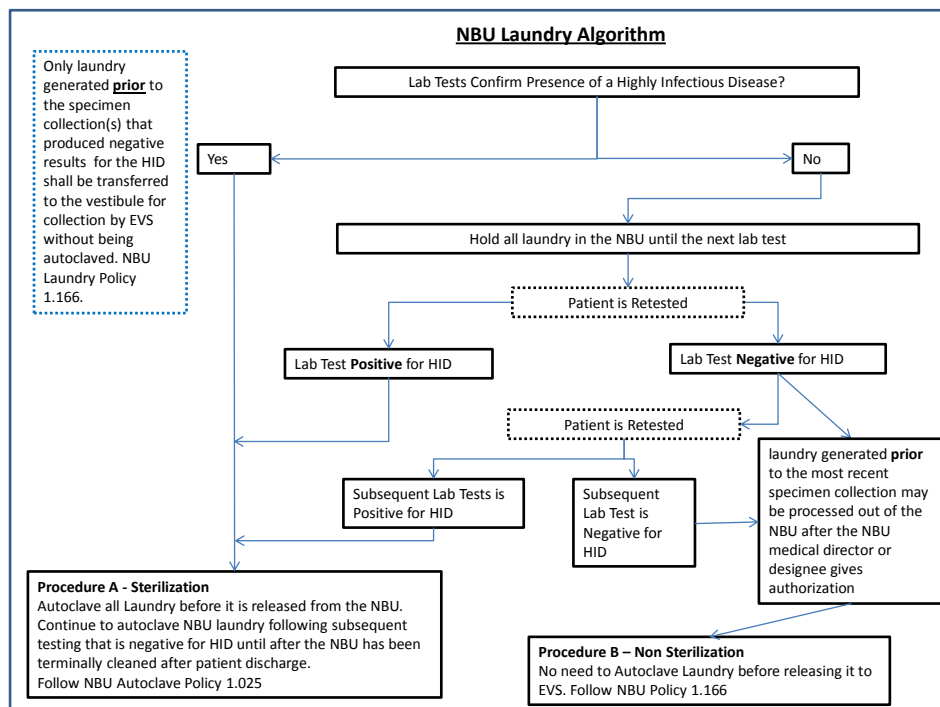
Disaster linen shall be utilized in the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit (NBU) and utilized as disposable linen unless it is no longer available due to supply depletion. Upon activation of the NBU, Environmental Services (EVS) shall be notified to initiate their procedures for processing NBU laundry.

Purpose:

To prevent the potential transmission of highly hazardous communicable diseases through contaminated laundry.

Procedure:

NBU laundry will follow one of two procedures based on the patient disease specifics or the NBU Medical Director's instructions. **Procedure A. Sterilization** requires all laundry to be autoclaved prior to leaving the NBU and **Procedure B Non-Sterilization** does not require laundry to be autoclaved before leaving the NBU. Follow the Laundry Procedure Algorithm (figure 1) to determine which procedure to follow.



(figure 1)

Procedure	Process
<p>A. Sterilization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster (blue) linen shall be treated as waste, follow NBU Waste Process Policy 1167 and NBU Autoclave Policy 1025 • NBU staff uniforms and other items worn in the clean zone i.e. yellow gowns shall be placed in a green linen bag. • Green linen bags should not be filled to more than ¾ full. • Green linen bags shall be placed in the designated staging area until the autoclave is available. • Green linen bags shall be autoclaved before leaving the NBU following NBU Autoclave Policy 1025.
<p>B. Non-sterilization</p>	<p><u>Laundry items generated within the patient care room</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only disaster (blue) linen shall be used in the patient care room. • Disaster (blue) linen shall be treated as waste; follow NBU Waste Process Policy 1167. <p>NBU laundry items that are generated during the care of a patient that has tested negative for a highly hazardous communicable disease shall be permitted to leave the NBU without being autoclaved under the following rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NBU patient must not have tested positive for the HID prior to being admitted to the NBU. • Laundry items generated prior to specimen collection that results in a negative analysis may be processed out of the NBU without autoclaving. • All laundry items collected between specimen collections shall be stored in the designated staging area until subsequent testing is complete and results are reported to the NBU medical director. At such time, the NBU medical director/ or designee may authorize processing NBU laundry out of the NBU without autoclaving. • Laundry items generated after specimen collection(s) shall remain in the NBU designated area for laundry collection until a decision is made after subsequent testing, follow the NBU Laundry Algorithm (<i>figure 1</i>)

Staff Accountability:
 Nebraska Biocontainment Unit Leadership
 Nebraska Biocontainment Unit Policy and Procedure Workgroup

<p>Department Approval Signed s : Kate Boulter Title: Nurse Manager</p>	<p>Administrative Approval Signed s : Michele Schwedhelm Title: Executive Director</p>
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Department: NBU